

M.J. "MIKE" FOSTER, JR. GOVERNOR

JACK C. CALDWELL SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

October 22, 2003

Dr. William Conner Chief, NOAA/Damage Assessment Center 1305 East-West Highway, SSMC #4, 10th floor Silver Springs, MD, 20910

Dear Dr. Conner:

The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources/Coastal Management Division (LDNR/CMD) appreciates the opportunity to review the Draft Regional Restoration Plan for Region 2 (Region 2 RRP). The Region 2 RRP is a component of the Louisiana Regional Restoration Planning Program. That program will be used by Federal and State natural resource trustees to expedite and reduce the cost of the natural resource damage assessment (NRDA) process, provide for consistency and predictability in the NRDA process, and increase restoration of lost natural resources and services affected by oil spills in Louisiana.

The Oil Spill Liaison staff within LDNR/CMD has worked closely with other State and Federal natural resource trustees in the development of the Louisiana Regional Restoration Planning Program and the Region 2 RRP. As a State natural resource trustee, LDNR is committed to the effective implementation of that program and the fulfillment of its objectives. Our staff is proud of the excellent collaboration among State and Federal natural resource trustees in this worthwhile effort. We look forward to continuing this collaborative process in the future.

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Administrator

CC: Roland Guidry (LOSCO/Office of the Governor)